



Via Overnight Mail and Electronic Mail

December 28, 2004

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Verizon Arbitration, D.T.E. 04-33

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

Conversent Communications of Massachusetts, LLC (Conversent) concurs with AT&T Communications of New England, Inc. (AT&T) that the Department should modify the schedule in this proceeding in light of the impending release of a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) order establishing new unbundling rules for certain network elements.

Conversent does not wish to see this proceeding delayed unduly. In particular, Conversent is interested in Verizon's compliance with the FCC's routine network modification requirements as soon as possible. Nonetheless, AT&T makes the valid point that until the FCC issues its order, the parties will be arbitrating in the dark concerning a number of important issues, chiefly including Verizon's obligations to unbundle dedicated transport and high-capacity loops. That would not be a productive use of the Department's or parties' time. AT&T's suggestion of an aggressive procedural schedule keyed to issuance of the FCC's order strikes a fair balance between the competing interests of not wasting time but avoiding undue delay.

Thank you. Please contact me (401-834-3326 direct dial or gkennan@conversent.com) if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Gregory M Kennan'.

Gregory M. Kennan
Director, Regulatory Affairs and Counsel

GMK/cw

Cc: Service List